

Notice of Rulemaking Hearing

Tennessee Department of Health
Bureau of Health Licensure and Regulation
Division of Emergency Medical Services

There will be a hearing before the Division of Emergency Medical Services to consider the promulgation of amendments of rules pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 68-140-504, 68-140-506, 68-140-508, and 68-140-517. The hearing will be conducted in the manner prescribed by the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-5-204 and will take place in the Cumberland Room of the Cordell Hull Building, Ground Floor, located at 425 Fifth Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee at 10:00 a.m., Central Standard Time, on March 10, 2005.

Any individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in these proceedings or review these filings should contact the Department of Health, Division of Emergency Medical Services to discuss any auxiliary aids or services needed to facilitate such participation. Such initial contact may be made no less than ten (10) days prior to the scheduled meeting date or the date the party plans to review such filings, to allow time for the Division of Emergency Medical Services to determine how it may reasonably provide such aid or service. Initial contact may be made with the department's ADA coordinator at the Andrew Johnson Tower, 11th Floor, 710 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37243-0675, 615-741-6350.

For a copy of the entire text of the notice of rulemaking, contact Joseph B. Phillips, Director, Division of Emergency Medical Services, Cordell Hull Building, First Floor, 425 Fifth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37247-0701, 615-741-2584.

Substance of Proposed Rules

Amendments of Rules

Paragraph (2) of Rule 1200-12-1-.15 Ambulance Service Records is amended by deleting the existing language of the paragraph in its entirety, and substituting instead the following language, so that, as amended the rule shall read:

- (2) Dispatch and Run Records shall be provided for every call to which an ambulance responds or when a patient is evaluated, treated, or transported; including information in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (a) A dispatch log shall be maintained to record the assignment of all units, including the date, the time the call is received, time and unit dispatched, time of arrival on scene, time of arrival at the destination, and time available for return to service. The dispatch log will specify responding or attending personnel by name and level of licensure, and cross-reference any ambulance run report number. Calls will be logged to reflect immediate emergency or non-emergency response or scheduled transfers. Compliance may be demonstrated by a single log, or such combination of records that can confirm the required information. Ambulance dispatch logs will be retained for a period of at least ten (10) years.
 - (b) Ambulance service run reports shall be filed with the Division of Emergency Medical Services to include all information in required data fields and such other information as may be detailed in the Board approved prehospital care data set. This information shall be transmitted in an approved format using Tennessee subset schema definitions (XSD) in Extensible Markup Language (XML) in compliance with information systems procedures adopted by the State of Tennessee. Each service shall submit reports, either web based or via compiled form, to the Division of Emergency Medical Services within sixty (60) days. Notices shall be sent to the service within fifteen (15) days for non-compliance or citing deficiencies in the reported data elements or required information.

- (c) For each patient transported to a hospital emergency department or transferred between medical facilities, emergency medical services personnel shall submit a report in writing to the emergency department or hospital personnel in a format or method approved by the Board. This report shall provide brief information identifying the patient by name (if known), age, and gender; the location from which the patient was transported; the approximate times of the medical incident, initiation of transport, and arrival at the hospital; the chief complaint or description of the illness or injuries, with appropriate notation of vital signs and patient condition; and shall describe the care and treatment provided at the scene or during transport. This report shall identify the name(s) and professional license level of the attending personnel, ambulance unit, and ambulance service. The receiving facility should receive any records or copies of physicians orders for scope of treatment (POST) that may accompany the patient. Should circumstances or other emergencies preclude the submission of the report at the time of arrival at the emergency department, the report shall be submitted in not less than twenty-four hours from time of transport. This report, while classified as confidential, shall be deemed as an essential element for continuity of care.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-203, 4-5-204; 68-140-502, 68-140-504, 68-140-505, 68-140-508 and 68-140-509.

Legal Contact and/or party who will approve final copy for publications:

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Assistant General Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Health
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Technical Contact/Contact for disk acquisition:

Richard F. Land
Director of Ambulance Service Licensure and Regulation
Division of Emergency Medical Services
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Telephone (615) 741-2584

I certify this is an accurate and complete representation of the intent and scope of rulemaking proposed by the Division of Emergency Medical Services.

Joseph B. Phillips, Director
Emergency Medical Services

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

My commission expires on the _____ day of _____, 20____.

The notice of rulemaking set out herein was properly filed in the Department of State on the _____ day of _____, 20____.

Riley C. Darnell
Secretary Of State

By: _____

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